sciences? It certainly shows admirably the defects of the advocating method of research—the dangers of the ruling hypothesis. Probably also a more respectful reception has been given in this country to these hypotheses because they were voluminously presented in German and backed by the prestige of a German professorship, than if they had originated in this country. But if the writer is not mistaken, in Germany, preeminently the land of science, voluminous presentation is a fashion, and around the large body of high-grade work is a larger aureole of pseudo-science than is found in either England or America. We are sadly in need of knowing more German and in making larger use of foreign literature, but discrimination is necessary, and the writer is inclined to think that some Germans in turn might make larger use of scientific literature in the English language.

Joseph Barrell

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

The New Zealand meeting of the British Association has been abandoned. It will be remembered that a number of distinguished American men of science are on the way to attend the meeting as guests of the New Zealand government.

Sir Adolph Routhier has been elected president of the Royal Society of Canada in succession to Professor Frank D. Adams.

The commission authorized by the New York state legislature to undertake the scientific study of the causes of bovine tuberculosis, its economic and health effects upon the state, has been appointed by Governor Glynn. The members of the commission include: Dr. Th. Smith, director of the division of animal pathology, Rockefeller Institute; Dr. Hermann M. Biggs, commissioner of health, New York; Dr. Linsly P. Williams, deputy commissioner of health, New York; Dr. Philip Van Ingen, of the New York Milk Commission; Dr. Henry L. K. Shaw, professor of children's diseases, Albany Medical College; Seth Low, and Professor Veranus A. Moore, dean of the New York State Veterinary College, Cornell University.

The Paris Academy of Sciences has awarded its La Caze prize of $2,000 to Dr. Gley, professor at the Collège de France, for his works on physiology.

The Sir Gilbert Blane medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of England has been awarded to Surgeon G. F. Syms, R.N.

Dr. Alexis Carrel, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, has been made director of the Military Hospital at Lyons, throughout the war.

It is said that Dr. A. L. Skoog, professor of neurology in the University of Kansas, has been made temporary head of the La Petrie Hospital in Paris. Dr. Skoog was doing clinical work at the institution when the entire hospital staff was obliged to undertake military service.

Dr. August Lydtin, the author of important contributions to veterinary medicine and animal breeding in Germany, has celebrated his eightieth birthday.

The first of the short addresses at the dedication of the new building of the Marine Biological Laboratory published in Science for August 14, should have been attributed to Professor Frank R. Lillie, director of the laboratory.

Mr. C. A. McLendon, botanist and plant pathologist of the Georgia Experiment Station, has accepted a position with the South Carolina Experiment Station as field pathologist. Mr. McLendon succeeds Mr. L. O. Watson who has gone to the Bureau of Plant Industry to take charge of the cotton wilt work in the south.

Professor Charles P. Berkey, of the department of geology, Columbia University, accompanied by Dr. Clarence N. Fenner, of the Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, sailed from New York on August 15 for Porto Rico to make a geological reconnaisance of the island. This party represents the New York Academy of Sciences, which has undertaken, in connection with the government of Porto Rico, a complete natural history survey of the island. It is hoped during the present season

to determine the fundamental geological formations with their larger structural relations, and reveal the problems that additional parties are to investigate in succeeding seasons.

MISS ALICE EASTWOOD, curator of the botanical department of the California Academy of Sciences, has recently returned from a collecting trip to Dawson, Yukon Territory, Canada. In order to be on hand for the earliest vegetation, particularly the willows, Miss Eastwood left San Francisco on April 4. The journey from Whitehorse to Dawson, a distance of over three hundred miles, was made in an open stage on runners over the snow and the frozen rivers. Full material was obtained of all the willows from the winter stage in some species to the fruiting stage in all, with leaf specimens from the flowering bushes. Eleven species were found at Dawson within the town limits, and four were added from the higher mountains of the Yukon near Dawson. The return trip was made up the river to Whitehorse and every day opportunities for collecting were afforded when the boat stopped to take on wood. Collections were made at Whitehorse, Atlin, Llewellyn Glacier, Lake Bennet, from Log Cabin to White Pass and Skagway. Small collections were also made on the way to Seattle when the boat stopped at Sitka, Wrangell and Killisnoo. The trip was made at the instigation of Professor C. S. Sargent, head of the Arnold Arboretum and through the cooperation of that institution and the California Academy of Sciences.

MR. ALFRED JOHN JUKES-BROWN, F.R.S., lately of the English Geological Survey, died on August 14 at the age of sixty-three years.

MRS. MARY A. ALBERTSON died on August 19, at the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Memorial, where she had been librarian and curator for ten years. To her much of the success of the memorial is due. While the astronomical work and the observatory received her faithful attention, she early organized a botanical department. Having been associated with Professor Mitchell in earlier days she knew her great love for flowers and worked to collect a complete herbarium of Nantucket flora (native and introduced). It is gratifying to report that she lived to see this nearly completed.

THE U. S. Civil Service Commission announces an examination for chief petroleum technologist to fill a vacancy in this position in the Bureau of Mines, for service in San Francisco, Cal., at a salary of $4,800 a year. The duties of this position will be to supervise and participate in the technologic and other scientific and economic work of the Bureau of Mines in relation to petroleum and natural gas, as to production (which involves a consideration of the oil- and gas-bearing strata), storage, transportation and refining; the prevention of waste; the prevention of loss from underground water encroachment and other economic problems affecting the industry. Graduation with a bachelor's degree from a college or university of recognized standing, special or graduate work in practical geology, and not less than five years' responsible experience in various practical petroleum operations, such as would fit the candidate for the above enumerated duties, are prerequisites for consideration for this position. This examination is open to all men who are citizens of the United States and who meet the requirements.

NOTICE is given by the organizing committee of the Nineteenth International Congress of Americanists that the session which was to be held in Washington from October 5 to 10 of this year has been postponed on account of the European war. An expression of opinion was asked of the membership, which has already reached the exceptional number of three hundred, and the almost unanimous reply was to the effect that since the many European members and governmental delegates could not attend, it would be impolitic to hold the meeting during the present season. A new date for the session will be decided upon as soon as conditions permit. It is suggested that by putting off the congress till the summer of 1915 arrangements may be made to hold a joint meeting with the Pan-American Scientific Congress, which is to meet in Washington next season. This would have the great advantage of enabling foreign members to

attend both congresses and at the same time to visit the two California Expositions.

THE British Iron and Steel Institute has been obliged to abandon the holding of its proposed autumn meeting in Paris.

IN consequence of the war, the publication of the British Pharmacopœia for 1914 has been postponed.

THE State Geological Survey under the direction of Professor Russell D. George has completed a series of contour and topographic maps of Colorado which have been placed in every library and school in the State.

MESSRS. WILLIAM WESLEY and Son, London, have in view of the Napier tercentenary issued a catalogue of astronomical, mathematical and other tables. This catalogue includes upwards of 300 volumes, published from the middle of the fifteenth century to the present time.

THE European war has for the present, at least, totally closed the European market to American radium ores. As is well known, the uranium ores of Colorado and Utah are sold exclusively for their radium content, so little use being known for the uranium that the ores can not be sold for their content of that element. The closure of the European market leaves but one known buyer, so that while the war lasts and probably for some time afterwards the market will be restricted and without the benefit of competition. Had the bills introduced in Congress been passed, the United States government would probably also have been in the market as a buyer, and the miner might have had at least the choice between two purchasers.

THE Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, has published a circular containing suggestions as to location and equipment of gas testing laboratories, a description of some of the accepted forms of apparatus, directions for the making of the various tests, and recommendations as to the interpretation of experimental results. It does not discuss the testing work necessary for good works control; it deals rather with methods which are intended for use in city or state official testing or in works laboratories which are checked by city or state inspectors. No attempt is made to fix on a single method to be used in every case, for it is not believed that uniformity of method is always necessary in order that the results of tests be considered standard. In each case as much freedom in choice of method is allowed as seems permissible; but the simplest procedure or apparatus with which satisfactory results can be had is given preference. Great advantage will result to companies and workmen alike by the general adoption by the several states of a single standard set of safety rules, which can be revised in accordance with the progress of the art and the combined experience of all the companies and commissions of the country. Thus will every state and every company secure the advantage of the experience of all. What particular rules do not apply their omission will of course cause no conflict in practise. If it is necessary for any state commission to adopt additional rules, that could be done at any time by special orders. This would be easier and less confusing than to have a different set of rules for each separate state. Acknowledgment is made of the cooperation by national associations, state commissions, company officials, and individuals. The conclusions reached by the Bureau of Standards from the combined experience of many of the most experienced companies and individual engineers and a thorough study of a large amount of literature and statistics are now offered with the hope that they will constitute a substantial contribution to the widely evidenced public need for a standard set of safety rules. It is believed that a material reduction in present life hazards to electrical workers may be realized by the general adoption and use of these rules. The study of life and property hazards incident to the generation, distribution and use of electrical energy includes the consideration of both construction methods and operating practise. Analysis of the available data on electrical accidents demonstrates their preventability in very large proportion by use of definite operating precautions. This is especially true with those accidents occurring to workmen engaged in electrical work. Rules

for construction, installation and maintenance of electrical equipment to safeguard employees and the public are now under preparation by the Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce. The rules for safety in the operation and handling of electrical lines and equipment, just published, proceed from a painstaking study by the engineers of the bureau of existing rules and practises. These are found to vary widely and to offer a very unsatisfactory basis for the formulation of mandatory codes by any state commission, unless a very extended study is made and the combined experience of many companies and workmen utilized. Many existing sets of rules have been developed from insufficient data and experience, while the vast majority of companies have no rules whatever in effect. This lack of rules in force is partly due to inaction on the part of state authorities and partly to the difficulty and expense each company encounters in preparing its own rules in any adequate form. The assistance of state commissions, operating companies and electrical workmen has been freely given to the bureau in this work, and the rules in their present form are offered to the public for criticism, discussion, and, so far as may be found desirable, for general adoption. The scope of the safety rules includes all operation of and work on or about power and signal lines, and the electrical equipment of central stations, substations, mines and testing departments. The rules are divided into three parts. The first two parts consist of general rules which apply to the employer and to the employee, respectively, and the third part comprises, under separate headings, those special rules which apply particularly to employees engaged in special classes of electrical work.

THE U. S. National Museum announces that it is exhibiting some designs in silk dress goods which use the designs and symbols left by the Aztecs and other early Indian peoples. Much material for designs pertaining to this early period of American history was available; buildings, temples, monuments, pottery, basketry and blankets are covered with picture-writings which form artistic designs. Not only the designs proper were adaptable but the colors as well, a fact which has materially assisted in the creation of these new American fashion designs. The textile division of the museum has installed a series of pure dye taffeta silks, contributed by the manufacturers, which show the reproductions of these ancient Mexican designs printed on soft clinging fabric. The designs comprise the Aztec moon in rainbow tones on blue and taupe; the Aztec armadillo and arrow pattern in colors on peacock-blue; Kortez—an Aztec hieroglyph—on dark green and satin-striped white taffeta; the Aztec coat-of-arms on navy blue, and an all-over design of Mexican feathers in shades of blue, green and brown. Other designs are reminders of the Pueblo Indians, one consisting of a rattlesnake symbol printed on Indian red, while another resembles a Navajo rug in which zig-zag stripes and a diamond arrangement of figures appear.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

IT is announced that the British universities will open as usual in the autumn. The Rhodes scholars from the United States and from the British colonies are expected to be in attendance at Oxford.

THE Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is endeavoring to collect $12,000 to endow an astronomical fellowship at Harvard College Observatory. Upwards of a thousand dollars have been given for this purpose, and in addition Dr. E. C. Pickering, the director of the observatory, and Mr. Charles S. Hinchman, of Philadelphia, have each subscribed $250 for the inauguration of the fellowship.

DR. D. A. CAMPBELL, of Halifax, has promised $60,000 to endow a chair of anatomy at Dalhousie University, Halifax, in memory of his son, the late Dr. George Campbell.

GEORGE PEABODY COLLEGE for Teachers has now an endowment of $3,200,000 of which $2,000,000 is to be used as a permanent endowment. Part of the remaining $1,200,000 is being spent on new buildings. The Household Arts building and the Industrial Arts building have already been completed and this year